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THE GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC. GULL
MONTHLY BULLETIN

Volumes 35 San Francisco, California, May, 1953 Number 5

MARCH RODEO LAGOON TRIP

Two surprises were in store for some 40 members and friends who took part in the Rodeo Lagoon trip on March 14. The weather was warm and the display of birds was beyond expectations. As soon as the group emerged from their autos at the parking space at the head of the canyon they were greeted by the flash of color and song of yellow-throats. This continued down the swampy part of the canyon to the lagoon. Excellent views of Allen hummingbirds were had as their colors flashed in the sun. About 1800 western grebes were observed resting on the ocean a short distance from the beach. The following 62 species were observed.

Arctic loon; horned, eared, w., and pied-b. grebes; br. pelican; do.-cr. and Brandt cormorants; blk.-cr. n. heron; mallard; pintail; cinn. teal; canvasback; l. scaup; Am. golden-eye; surf scoter; ruddy duck; t. vulture; red-t., marsh and sp. hawks; Cal. quail; coot; killdeer; W. snipe; glau.-w., w., herring, Cal., ring-b., and Heermann gulls; Anna and Allen hummingbirds; red-sh. flicker; blk. phoebe; raven; crow; ch.-b. chickadee; bush-tit; wren-tit; Bew. and l.-b. marsh wrens; robin; her. thrush; ruby-cr. kinglet; Hut. vireo; Aud. warbler; yellow-throat; house sparrow; w. meadowlark; red-w. and Br. blackbirds; purple and house finches; Am. goldfinch; sp. and br. towhees; Sav. sparrow; Ore. junco; wh.-cr., fox and song sparrows.

— HAROLD G. PETERSON, *Leader and Historian.*

MARCH JEWEL LAKE TRIP

The weatherman's prediction of rain did not scare out 21 enthusiastic birders from a trip to the Tilden Park Nature Area and Jewel Lake on Saturday, March 28. The clouds parted, the sun came out bright and warm, and a very pleasant day was spent in the area. The warmth along Wildcat Creek, which has a typical growth of willows, alders, bays, etc., reaching from the Nature Area to Jewel Lake, livened up the natural bird life. The songs of orange-crowned and pileolated warblers were much in evidence. Many Allen hummers and several rufous hummers were observed on the chaparral slopes along the creek. Varied thrushes were also numerous. The following species, 39 in number, were observed.

Mallard; scaup; ruddy duck; red-t. hawk; Cal. quail; mour. dove; Anna, rufous, and Allen hummingbirds; red-sh. flicker; hairy and downy woodpeckers; blk. phoebe; Steller and scrub jays; ch.-b. chickadee; pl. titmouse; bush-tit; wren-tit; Bew. wren; robin; var. and olive-b. thrushes; ruby-cr. kinglet; warb. vireo; Aud. warbler; yellow-throat; pil. warbler; red-w. blackbird; house finch; Am. goldfinch; sp. and br. towhees; Ore. junco; chip., wh.-cr., gold.-cr., fox, and song sparrows.

—C. L. CARSON, *Leader and Historian.*

OBSERVATIONS

On the boat trip off Monterey on March 31, in connection with the state Audubon Convention at Asilomar, pelagic birds were rather scarce, but the following were seen: black-footed albatross (5), sooty shearwater (25), pink-footed shearwater (1), ancient murrelet (1), rhinoceros auklet (2).

BLACK BRANT, Marina, S. F., Mch. 8 (Geo. T. Kilham); 2 at Bay Farm Island, Apr. 13 (Junea W. Kelly). GOLDEN EAGLE, near Lake Curry, Apr. 5 (L.C.); Pinnacles Nat. Mon., Apr. 12 (Harry Adamson). OSPREY, near Asilomar, Mch. 30 (L.C.). PEREGRINE FALCON at nest, Pinnacles Nat. Mon., Apr. 12 (H.A.). KNOT, 24 at Bay Farm Island on Apr. 13 (J.W.K.). BAND-TAILED PIGEONS, Ross, Apr. 4. NUTTALL WOODPECKER, Tilden Park, Apr. 12 (L.C.). WESTERN FLYCATCHER, Ross, Apr. 4 (J.W.K.); Larkspur, Apr. 5 (Mary L. Courtright). CLIFF SWALLOW, 150 at Dumbarton Bridge, Apr. 12 (J.W.K.). HOUSE WREN, near Lake Curry, Apr. 5 (L.C.). CANYON WREN, 4 at Putah Creek, Apr. 1 (J.W.K.). VARIED THRUSH, Ross, Apr. 4 (J.W.K.). HERMIT THRUSH, Larkspur, Mch. 30—2 on bird bath in fighting cock attitude (M.L.C.).

SOLITARY VIREO, St. Mary's College, Apr. 14 (J.W.K.). WARBLING VIREO, Ross, Pr. 4 (J.W.K.). MACGILLIVRAY WARBLER, St. Mary's College, Apr. 14 (J.W.K.). HOODED ORIOLE, female in Berkeley, Apr. 9 (Margaret R. Breck). BULLOCK ORIOLE, Putah Creek, Apr. 1 (J.W.K.); Elmira, Apr. 5 (L.C.); pair at Lafayette, Apr. 13 (H.A.). COWBIRD, El Cerrito, Mch. 28 (L.C.); Alameda, Apr. 14 (J.W.K.). BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK, Ross, Apr. 4 (J.W.K.); near Lake Curry, Apr. 5 (L.C.). EVENING GROSBEAK, Berkeley, 2 on Mch. 26, 9 on Mch. 27, one on Mch. 28, one on Apr. 4 (M.R.B.). CHIPPING SPARROW, St. Mary's College, Apr. 14 (J.W.K.). GAMBEL WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW, El Cerrito, Apr. 12 (L.C.). LINCOLN SPARROW, 2 in Tilden Park on Apr. 12 (L.C.).

Send or hand unusual observations *in writing* to A. Laurence Curl, 7360 Rockway Ave., El Cerrito.

NEW MEMBERS: We welcome the following: from San Francisco, Eugene D. Bennett, Richard D. Canida, Miss Grace V. Haw, Alvin R. Kilpfel, Mrs. John R. Pascoe; from Berkeley, Mrs. Frederic C. King, Mrs. L. R. Leinbach; from Alameda, Henry R. Wagner, Jr.; from Sharp Park, Miss Mary Butler; from Los Altos, Vinson Brown.

CONDORS: From THE YODELER, publication of the Sierra Club, of April 6, we learn that attempts to trap the condors have not been successful and have ceased for the present. Let us hope that the Fish and Game Commisson will not allow further molestation of these too rare birds.

AUDUBON CAMP OF CALIFORNIA

The National Audubon Society has announced details of the Audubon Camp of California which will be held again this year at the Sugar Bowl, 7000 feet high in the Sierra Nevada near Donner Summit. Five two-week sessions will be held, beginning June 17, July 1, July 15, July 29, and Aug. 12. The camp will be headed again by Vaughan MacCaughey, and the cost per session is $95. Further details may be obtained from the N.A.S. office in San Francisco. Any man or woman, 18 or over, regardless of professional background or present knowledge may attend. Attendance at the camp is especially valuable to persons interested in schools, camping, museums, libraries, recreation and youth group activities, or any phase of conservation.

The camp has vacancies open for a utility man and for camp assistants, for young men with minimum ages of 18 and 17, respectively, who are actively interested in natural history and conservation. Further details may be obtained from San Francisco office of the National Audubon Society whose address is on the back page of THE GULL.

The Golden Gate Audubon Society is giving one full and two half scholarships for the Audubon Camp of California for two weeks of the season of 1953. These are available for persons who need financial assistance to attend the Camp to train for leadership in conservation education in Junior Audubon Societies and other groups. Applications may be made to Frank A. Scott, Chairman, Education Committee, 1508 La Loma Avenue, Berkeley 8, California.

The Cooper Ornithological Society (formerly "Club") is not holding an annual spring meeting this year in view of the meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union in Los Angeles in late October, 1953.

The American Orinthologists' Union is the foremost organization of bird students in North America. There are various classes of members: Patrons, Honorary Fellows, Corresponding Fellows, Fellows, Members, and Associates. Anyone who is interested can become an Associate; the annual dues are $4 per year and include subscription to the quarterly journal, THE AUK, which usually contains 500 pages or more per year. Members and Fellows achieve their rank only by election; the number of these is limited. There were about 60 fellows and 170 members in 1951. In addition to THE AUK, the American Ornithologists Union periodically publishes a Check-List of North American Birds, which lists all recognized species and sub-species of birds which have been found in North America (north of Mexico except Baja California is included), together with their ranges. The Fifth Edition of the Checklist should be published in the not too far distant future.

There will be a Regional Parks Assn. Lecture at the Brazilian Room, Tilden Regional Park, on Sunday, May 17, at 3:00 p.m. Speaker, Edward Ross, "Insect Photography".

MAY MEETING

The 428th meeting of the Golden Gate Audubon Society will be held in the Commissioners' Room of the San Francisco Public Library, Civic Center, on May 14 at 7:30 p.m. Following the business meeting, Dr. Edward S. Ross of the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, will give an illustrated lecture "Hunting Insects with a Camera".

— DOROTHY DEAN SCOTT, *Program Chairman.*

MAY GOLDEN GATE PARK TRIP

On Saturday, May 9, to Golden Gate Park to observe nesting birds. The leader has a number of nests, particularly those of Allen hummingbirds, under observation. A mirror arrangement permits actual views into the nests. Meet at 43rd and Fulton Streets, San Francisco at 9:00. Number 5 bus on Market Street will take you there. Leader, Joel Hedgpeth—SEabright 1-7162. Bring binoculars, lunch if desired, and interested friends.

MAY TRIP TO NAPA AND SONOMA COUNTIES

On Sunday, May 17, to Lokoya Lodge and other points north of San Francisco Bay. Pileated woodpeckers are sometimes observed nesting in the vicinity of the Lodge, and springtime activity should be at its height by this date. Meet at the bridge on the Silverado Trail a mile or so north of Napa at 8:30. Chats have been observed at this locality. Then by car caravan to the higher country (altitude approximately 1300 feet) near Lokoya Lodge. Leader, Larry Curl, LA. 6-7004. Bring binoculars, telescopes, lunch, and interested friends.

TRIP TO CHIRICAHUA MTNS., ARIZONA

For details on the trip to the Chiricahuas on May 17 to 24, see the April GULL or call the Field Trips Chairman, Lafayette 2164. Address: 995 Carol Lane, Lafayette.

— HARRY C. ADAMSON, *Field Trips Chairman.*

Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc.
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